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1962/10/28

444

DEBRIEFING, 10/28/62, 12:45 p.m.

Mr. Johnson debriefed.

Attended by:

EUR - Mr. Tyler
 IO - Mr. Cleveland
 S/P - Mr. Rostov
 INR - Mr. Hilsman
 G/M-Mr. Kitchen
 G/PM - Mr. Weiss
 S/S - Mr. Brubeck
 S/S-S - Miss Moor
 REA - Mr. Talbot

Mr. Johnson emphasized that there should be no euphoria pointed to Castro's insistence upon obtaining Guantanamo. Mr. Hilsman added that 24 missiles are now operational, that the defense network inside Cuba is now tied in completely to the Soviet network, ^{there} ~~XXX~~ is a [REDACTED] to Cuban communications networks, and a single code word, unbroken, [REDACTED]. Moreover, we also know that there is tremendous confusion inside the governmental apparatus with no consistent decision yet with regard to firing or not firing, etc. Moreover, feverish work has continued on the missile sites and on various defense arrangements, obviously geared toward a possible invasion. Mr. Johnson said the ExCom had decided that there should be no reconnaissance today. There would, however, be a reconnaissance tomorrow either ~~XXXXXX~~ by the UN or by us. A team has gone to New York (Chryk, Forrestal, Zisco, Cleveland) to work out with the UN a UN reconnaissance mission. Alternatives are:

TOP SECRET EYES ONLY

1. U.S. Aircraft

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 NSC Debriefings 1962

410/2

1. U.S. Aircraft with a UN personnel on board
2. Loaning a plane, pilot, etc with UN insignia (The difficulty here is that there is not time to paint on the insignia.. If the ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ paint is not thoroughly dry the friction from the high speed of these planes peels it off.
3. Sell a plane to the UN
4. Have the UN Charter the planes from Fairchild.
5. Use Canadian Planes

Mr. _____ said that ~~XXXXX~~ after the meeting further discussion led to 3 alternatives at this point; ~~XXX~~ namely, a two step arrangement with the UN. The first few days the UN would in effect hire the U.S. Air Force. The second step would be in the next few days after that ~~x~~ to have multilateral teams using U.S. equipment. If it is clear that there will be no retaliatory firing on the reconnaissance planes _____ could be used. The Executive Committee decided to send ~~Pikye~~ all intelligence data on missiles it is possible to get together.

Guidance was given with regard to a reply to Khrushchev's letter received this morning. The President at a noon meeting stated that a formal reply will be ~~XXXXX~~ issued at about 3:00 p.m. Ambassador Thompson will prepare the basic reply. Mr. Johnson will prepare the language with regard to Khrushchev's complaint about U2 flights. Foster will prepare a language on disarmament. Mr. Johnson said that CIA - Ray Cline - and Defense - Bill Bundy - would see the draft of the letter but not be involved with the drafting.

U Thant is replying to Soviet Union, U.S. and Castro persuasively accepting ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ graciously our willingness to negotiate.

Stevenson called the President this morning giving an account of his

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conversations

S/S-NSC File: 750265
NSC Debriefing 1962

CU-718

410/3

conversations with U Thant. McGeorge Bundy is bring a copy ~~XX~~ over to Mr. Johnson at 1:30 p.m. today. The Secretary will speak wto the OAS at 5:00 p.m. today to get agreement to our new moves. ~~XXXXXXXX~~

Castro's subversion was brought up. Our statement in the letter should be similar to our previous statements; namely, that we will not attack the island as long as they behave. ~~XXX~~

Mr. Johnson~~XX~~ also announced that Kuz Nep Sov is arriving at the UN tonight.

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S/S-NSC File: 750265
NSC Debriefing 1962

CU-719

410/4

CAROL:

I TYPED THIS UP IN VERY ROUGH DRAFT SINCE THERE WERE
SEVERAL PLACES THAT I DIDN'T GET OR COULDN'T READ.

SUE

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S/S-NSC File: 750265
NSC Debriefing 1962

CH-720